



# PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

Date: July 28, 2011

Number: 11-14

Subject: Requirements for the Level II or Clear Education  
Specialist Credential

## Summary

The Commission currently issues a two-level special education teaching credential: Level I and Level II credential documents (1997 standards) and Preliminary and Clear (2008-10 Standards) credential documents. This PSA includes a table that lists requirements to earn a Level II or Clear Education Specialist Credential for individuals who are prepared in California and for those who completed their professional preparation programs out-of-state or outside of the United States.

## Background

Revised Education Specialist and Other Related Services Credential standards were adopted by the Commission between December 2008 and January 2010. All Education Specialist and Other Related Services Credential programs are required to transition to the revised program standards between January 2010 and September 30, 2011. Due to the transition period, some candidates are now completing the Level I program under the previous set of Education Specialist Credential standards and are deciding whether to complete a Level II program or a Commission-approved induction program to earn a Clear credential. Other candidates are completing the Preliminary program under the currently adopted standards that requires completion of an induction program to earn a Clear credential. As a result, there may be confusion by candidates as to the requirements for clearing their Level I or Preliminary credential.

The attached table identifies the requirements that must be completed to earn a Level II or Clear Education Specialist Credential. Please note that if a Level I candidate chooses to complete the Clear credential program instead of a Level II program the candidate must complete requirements for the Clear credential as well as the content required for the Level II credential. See the References section for the link to the Education Specialist FAQs. The health education

requirement, including CPR, and the technology requirement are specifically addressed in page 3 of the attached table.

Additional information about Level II and Clear Education Specialist programs is included in pages 14-18 of the Education Specialist FAQs. The link to access the FAQs can be found in the References section along with links to Coded Correspondence 10-12, which contains information related to Clear Education Specialist programs, and Title 5 Regulations pertaining to Education Specialist Credentials.

**Source:** Title 5 sections 80048.3, 80048.4, 80048.8, 80048.8.1

## **References**

Special Education Webpage:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/special-education.html>

Education Specialist FAQs

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/special-education-docs/Special-Ed-FAQ.pdf>

Education Specialist Credential – Individuals Prepared in California Information Leaflets

Level I and Level II: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl808c.pdf>

Preliminary and Clear: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl808ca.pdf>

Education Specialist Credential – Individuals Prepared Out-of-State Information Leaflet:

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl808.pdf>

Education Specialist Credential – Individuals Prepared Outside the United States Information

Leaflet: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl872.pdf>

Coded Correspondence 10-12: *Approval of Title 5 Regulations Pertaining to Special Education Teaching Credential Requirements UPDATED October 6, 2010*

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/notices/coded/2010/1012.pdf>

Educator Preparation Program Standards

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/standards/Special-Education-Standards.pdf>

Approved Programs Webpage: [http://134.186.81.79/fmi/xsl/CTC\\_apm/recordlist.html](http://134.186.81.79/fmi/xsl/CTC_apm/recordlist.html)

Approved Clear Education Specialist Programs

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/special-education-docs/Approved-Clear-Ed-Sp.pdf>

Comparability of Coursework for sponsors of special education professional preparation programs: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/reports/AB2226-2010.pdf>

## **Contact Information**

For more information, or if you have questions about this topic, you may contact the Commission's Information Services Unit at 1-888-921-2682, Monday through Friday between noon and 4:45 pm or by email at [credentials@ctc.ca.gov](mailto:credentials@ctc.ca.gov)

## Requirements to Earn a Level II or Clear Education Specialist Credential

*California-Prepared, Out-of-State Prepared, and Prepared Outside the United States*

<b>LEVEL II Education Specialist Credential Requirements</b>			
<b>Education Specialist Credential Held</b>	<b>California-Prepared</b>	<b>Out-of-State Prepared <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Prepared Outside the United States</b>
<b>Level I <sup>2</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission-approved Level II Education Specialist program including recommendation</li> <li>• Two years teaching experience</li> <li>• If not previously met:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Health Education</li> <li>– Advanced Technology Education</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Option to complete either ALL the current renewal requirements listed on their document</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>the renewal requirements that went into effect on 1/1/2007</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>OR</b></p> <p>National Board Certification</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission-approved Level II Education Specialist program including recommendation</li> <li>• Two years teaching experience</li> <li>• If not previously met:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Basic skills requirement</li> <li>▪ Developing English Language Skills including Reading</li> <li>▪ US Constitution</li> <li>▪ Subject-Matter Competence</li> <li>▪ Non-special education pedagogy related to teaching basic academic skills and content areas</li> <li>▪ Supervised field experience in non-special education</li> <li>▪ Health Education</li> <li>▪ Foundational/Advanced Technology Education</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Preliminary</b>	<p><i>The holder of a Preliminary Education Specialist Credential cannot earn a Level II Education Specialist Credential. See page 2 of this chart for options to earn a clear credential.</i></p>		

**Note: See page 3 for information about the health and technology education requirements.**

<sup>1</sup> For additional information see Coded Correspondence 06-0027 at <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/notices/coded/060027/060027.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Individuals who completed out-of-state or outside the United States generic special education programs must contact a Commission-approved program sponsor for an evaluation of their coursework in order to complete an equivalent Level I or Preliminary Education Specialist program through completion of program coursework. In addition, approved programs may use the guidelines in the report from January 2010 entitled *Comparability of Coursework for Sponsors of Special Education Teacher Preparation Programs* to determine equivalency for the Level I or Preliminary Education Specialist Credential program. A link may be found in the Reference section on page 3. The Commission is currently proposing regulations to clarify the routes and renewal requirements to align with the current statute.

<b>CLEAR Education Specialist Credential Requirements</b>			
<b>Education Specialist Credential Held</b>	<b>California-Prepared</b>	<b>Out-of-State Prepared</b>	<b>Prepared Outside the United States</b>
<b>Level I <sup>2</sup></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission-approved Clear Education Specialist Induction program and sponsor's recommendation including Level II content moved to the preliminary program <sup>1</sup></li> <li>• If not previously met:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Health Education</li> <li>– Advanced Technology Education</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><i>Available ONLY if individual qualified for Level I with less than two year of out-of-state teaching experience</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission-approved Clear Education Specialist Induction program and sponsor's recommendation including Level II content moved to the preliminary program <sup>1</sup></li> <li>• English learner requirement</li> <li>• If not previously met:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Basic skills requirement</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission-approved Clear Education Specialist Induction program and sponsor's recommendation including Level II content moved to the preliminary program <sup>1</sup></li> <li>• If not previously met:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Basic skills requirement</li> <li>▪ Developing English Language Skills including Reading</li> <li>▪ US Constitution</li> <li>▪ Subject-Matter Competence</li> <li>▪ Non-special education pedagogy related to teaching basic academic skills and content areas</li> <li>▪ Supervised field experience in non-special education</li> <li>▪ Health Education</li> <li>▪ Basic/Advanced Technology Education</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Preliminary</b>	Commission-approved Clear Education Specialist Induction program including recommendation	<p><i>Individuals from out-of-state or outside the United States qualify for a Level I Education Specialist Credential and are not issued a preliminary credential.</i></p>	

**Note: See page 3 for information about the health and technology education requirements.**

<sup>1</sup> Information may be found at: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/ed-specialist-cred-programs.html>

<sup>2</sup> Individuals who completed out-of-state or outside the United States generic special education programs must contact a Commission-approved program sponsor for an evaluation of their coursework in order to complete an equivalent Level I or Preliminary Education Specialist program through completion of program coursework. In addition, approved programs may use the guidelines in the report from January 2010 entitled *Comparability of Coursework for Sponsors of Special Education Teacher Preparation Programs* to determine equivalency for the Level I or Preliminary Education Specialist Credential program. A link may be found in the Reference section on page 3. The Commission is currently proposing regulations to clarify the routes and renewal requirements to align with the current statute.

### **Health Education Requirement**

The health education requirement for special education is the same health requirement as for the multiple and single subject credential holders and includes the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) requirement. The course may be taken either at a two- or four-year college or university. Also see note below in box.

### **Technology Requirement**

Foundational technology may be met by a course taken at a four-year college or university or achieving a passing score on the Preliminary Education Technology examination.

The advanced technology requirement may be met by a course taken at a four-year college or university that has a Commission-approved preliminary multiple/single subject program. An individual may complete the multiple/single subject technology course that meets Standard 11. Standard 11 may be found on pages 27-28 of the *SB 2042 Multiple Subject and Single Subject Preliminary Credential Program Standards* at: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/standards/AdoptedPreparationStandards.pdf>.

Many four-year colleges and universities offer one technology course that covers both basic and advanced technology content. Also see note below in box.

A Commission-approved induction or Level II program may make an equivalency for the health (not including CPR portion) requirement and the basic and/or advanced technology requirement with documentation of the reason for the equivalency in the individual's file.

### **Resources**

Information Leaflets:

California-Prepared Level I/Level II: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl808c.pdf>

California-Prepared Preliminary/Clear: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl808ca.pdf>

Out-of-State Prepared: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl808.pdf>

Prepared Outside the United States: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl872.pdf>

Level II Content: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/ed-specialist-cred-programs.html>

Out-of-State Requirements for Level II Credential: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/notices/coded/060027/060027.pdf>

*Comparability of Coursework for Sponsors of Special Education Teacher Preparation Programs*: - <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/reports/AB2226-2010.pdf>

Standard 11 may be found on pages 27-28 of the *SB 2042 Multiple Subject and Single Subject Preliminary Credential Program Standards* at: <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/standards/AdoptedPreparationStandards.pdf>